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NURSING IN MISSION STATIONS

A METHODIST HOSPITAL IN MANILA

The eighth annual report of the Mary J. Johnston Hospital has been received from Lena Lee Salmon, and contains the following: The year began with the hard, busy, confusing, but enthusiastic days of completing and furnishing the new Assembly Pavilion, and re-arranging the entire hospital. How rich we felt with such a splendid addition. We thought it an immense house and it was, and is; but many and many a time every inch of space has been full, and we have wished for more room, so satisfactorily have the poor women come to us for help in this their hour of greatest need.

Larger accommodations have given added opportunity for service, yet at times all departments have been taxed to their limits, and sometimes those refused admittance have offered to bring their beds!

Many evidences of increasing trust and sympathy have come; the people are more and more friendly, and the municipal authorities have continued their sanitary work. All about, the streets and plazas are so well kept, they add much to the beauty of our surroundings. A recent visitor said, "Why, the hospital is in the best district of Manila, is it not?" But we pointed out the dirty tumble-down shacks, not a stone's-throw away. The past year has marked the moving out bodily of a clump of ramshackle nipa huts, each shack being hoisted up on the shoulders of about twenty men, who trotted down the street or to the beach, without shaking to pieces the frail structure.

The general medical ward has of necessity been given up to waiting and convalescent mothers. Twelve beds are but a "drop in the bucket" when the dreadful need of medical treatment is considered. Poor sick women come from far and near, and many times must be content with only dispensary treatment, when a week or two of hospital care would do wonders for them. After one has refused to receive, and explains the reason for eight years, it would seem to have become an old story but it has not!

The opening of the new Assembly Pavilion greatly enlarged the facilities for obstetrical work, and we are delighted to have the young married people evidently think that it is a sign of progress to patronize the hospital. This has added not only to our income but to their self-respect. However, the mothers come from every walk of life; the beggar, the casco dweller, the teacher, the happy sheltered wife.

All learn the necessity for cleanliness, and the care of the baby, doing the work with their own hands, under the supervision of a nurse. The hospital cared for four hundred and seventy-eight obstetric cases, and four hundred and forty-three babies; these patients represent China, Japan, France, Switzerland, Australia, the United States, and the Philippines.

With the enlarged hospital, there is also the need for more nurses, in the training school. From the beginning of three in 1907, we now have thirty-one. This year we admitted a class of fourteen, all very fine girls. One is a graduate deaconess who has spent three years in the work in the provinces, and wishes to become a nurse, to increase her sphere of usefulness. The pupil nurses help in the kindergarten, and give willing service. Some know how to weave, others to sew, two can play the piano, and all sing and play games. This will be of help to them after they graduate, for they will meet many children who know so little of the games and songs all children ought to know.

Just as we finish our report, we receive newspaper information of the death of Mr. D. S. B. Johnston, of St. Paul, Minnesota, who built this hospital in memory of his wife. We feel that we have lost not only a benefactor, but a friend.

TOO LATE FOR CLASSIFICATION

The National Organization for Public Health Nursing announces that its programme, as printed in the May JOURNAL, gave the Thursday morning programme for Wednesday afternoon. On Wednesday afternoon the Public Health Nurses, with all the others present at the convention, will attend the open-air educational meeting at the Greek Theatre, Berkeley. On Wednesday morning, June 23, at the session on School Nursing, there will be the following speakers: Dr. Clinton P. McCord, Albany, N. Y.; Dr. Adelaide Brown, California; Edna G. Bridgeford, Albany, N. Y.; Coralie H. Johnston, Richmond, Va.; Helen W. Kelly, Chicago; Mrs. Edith M. Hickey, Seattle; Lina Rogers Struthers, Toronto.